

(c) if not, the present status of the project;

(d) whether the date of laying foundation stone of the project has since been fixed;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) Petronet LNG Limited (PLL), a Joint Venture Company promoted by IOC, ONGC, GAIL and BPCL, is setting up an LNG Terminal at Kochi, Kerala.

Land for the project has been allotted. Various pre-project activities have been completed. Statutory clearances for the project have been obtained. Work relating to infrastructure has started. The mechanical completion of the project is expected by June, 2010.

(d) to (f) The date of stone-laying ceremony which was earlier fixed for February 8, 2006, was postponed due to administrative reasons.

Profit earned by oil marketing companies

676. SHRI M.V. MYSURAREDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that oil marketing companies *i.e.* IOC, BPC, HPC, IBP have earned profit during the 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 (Provisional); and

(b) if so, the details of profit after deducting tax, company-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) The details of the profit after tax of the public sector oil marketing companies *viz.* Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and IBP Company Limited (IBP) during the years 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 (Provisional) are given in the Statement (See below). IBP has incurred loss during April-September, 2006 (Provisional).

Statement

Profit earned by public sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) during the years 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 (Provisional)

Sl. No.	Name of the OMCs	Profit after tax (Rs. in crores)		
		2004-05	2005-06	2006-07 (April to Sept. 06) (Provisional)
1.	IOC	4891.38	4915.12	4830.79
2.	HPCL	1277.33	405.63	614.32
3.	BPCL	965.80	291.65	832.00
4.	IBP	58.96	12.41	(-)624.80

Availability of gas

677. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalized the proposed gas pipeline from Iran and other countries;

(b) if so, the complete details thereof and the present position thereof; and

(c) what is the present status of gas available to the people of this country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. India is pursuing the import of natural gas from Iran, Turkmenistan and Myanmar through transnational gas pipelines. Status of these projects is as under:

1) Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) Gas Pipeline:

The Government is discussing the details of IPI gas pipeline with the Government of Iran and Pakistan. Third Trilateral meeting between India, Pakistan and Iran was held on August 3-4, 2006 in New Delhi. It was decided in the meeting to appoint a consultant to work out the gas price as per the methodology agreed between the three countries. Subsequently, M/s Gaffney Cline & Associates has been appointed as a consultant by